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**[www.dsbnschools.org/
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August 26-29 is Registration week.

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Guarding Niagara

Soldiers spent war protecting home front from attack that never came
Page 2

Out with the old

New logo for Port Colborne/Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce.
Page 5

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014

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■ **URBAN EGGS:** Port Colborne family has to give them up after anonymous complaint

Chickens in the city

DAN DAKIN
QMI Agency Niagara

The chickens are now gone from the Port Colborne backyard of Leslie Butt and her husband Matthew Sorge.

The fancy red coop with its miniature windows, shingled roof and separate sleeping quarters is still there, but the family's four chickens are gone — off to the farm of a family member with more room to let them roam and no city bylaws to stop them from being there.

To be clear, Butt and Sorge were breaking a municipal bylaw by getting four baby chicks three months ago. But they'd had chickens five years

ago in a previous Port Colborne home and no one ever stopped them.

What they've come to learn since is that the chicken bylaw in Port Colborne, like most municipalities across Niagara, is only enforced if someone complains.

It's sort of a don't ask, don't tell policy.

To the dismay of Sorge, Butt and their two kids, however, someone told.

The family bought the animals as baby hens and kept them inside until they were big enough to be outside. Within two weeks of them being outside, they got a call from the city saying someone had complained anonymously.

"The complaint wasn't about

noise or smell or anything, it was just that they didn't like that we had chickens," Butt said. "They said as long as no one complains you're okay, but as soon as someone complains, we have to enforce it."

The family lives on a fairly quiet residential road off of Steele St. in Port Colborne. They bought a pre-made chicken coop from a local farming store and the four hens were living inside it in their unfenced backyard.

Like many urban chicken farmers, the family wanted what they believed was a healthier alternative to store-bought eggs for themselves. There was never an intention to sell them.

"The biggest reason was so that we would know where our

flood was coming from and so our kids knew we had to take care of them," Butt said.

The family had been meat-free for a while, but the final straw came after she was driving past a farm and saw piles of chickens being loaded onto a truck.

"I came home and said 'I think we need to buy our own chickens,'" she said.

That first warning from the city's law enforcement department was followed by another, and then another.

Last week, the family decided the chickens had to go, so they took them to a farm Friday where they'd continue to grow. They're still about five weeks too young to produce eggs.

The empty chicken coop will



NAFARITS - FOTOLIA

Port Colborne outlaw — a family says it will keep up its fight for the right to raise a handful of chickens within the city's urban boundary.

remain, Butt said, because the family isn't giving up the fight yet. They plan to continue trying to get Port Colborne's chicken bylaw changed.

Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badway said the bylaw change request was expected to be addressed at council Monday.

"It's not the first time we've heard the request to allow farm

animals in the urban area," he said.

Not long ago, a resident living near the border of the urban boundary was granted special permission to have a horse on his property after neighbours supported the idea and councilors visited the site.

See **CHICKENS** on Page 6

Margaret Ann GIGANTI
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

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UPFRONT

■ **FIRST WORLD WAR:** The Welland Canal Force brought the war home for Niagara residents

Protecting the home front

ALLAN DENNER
QMI Agency Niagara

The First World War was not confined to the trenches of Europe.

Hundreds of soldiers spent the war years right here in Niagara, protecting the home front from an attack that never came.

Drew Neufeld, manager of the Lincoln and Welland Regiment Museum at Butler's Bunkers, said the shipping canal, hydro electric generation facilities, and local factories manufacturing ammunition and weapons were all considered potential enemy targets in need of protection.

"All the way from St. Catharines to Fort Erie and Lincoln was considered a threat," Neufeld said.

To ensure the safety of local targets, the Canadian military established The Welland Canal Force — a team of reservists from the 15th Lincoln Regiment and the 44th Lincoln and Welland Regiment, initially assigned to protect the shipping canal from attack.

And the soldiers made their presence known, setting up guard posts at key locations throughout the region.

"While they were guarding the canal you actually had to apply for a vehicle pass," Neufeld said.

One of those vehicle passes is within a small display dedicated to the Welland Canal Force at the museum, one of several artifacts related to the mission.

In the years that followed, additional objectives were added to the Welland Canal Force mission as more threats were identified.

By the end of the war, the soldiers were also patrolling hydro generation facilities, international bridges over the Niagara River, factories and even food production facilities.

But now 100 years later, the role those soldiers played in the war is being forgotten.

"The majority of people don't know about the Welland Canal Force," Neufeld said.

Concerns about the fading memories of the mission inspired the retired commanding officer of the Lincoln and Welland Regiment Lt. Col. William Smy, 76, to share the story of the Welland Canal Force in a book he published in 2012 — *Guarding Niagara: The Welland Canal Force 1914-1918*.

But even gathering information about the local soldiers proved to be a challenge for Smy, who has written several military history books since his retirement from the Lincoln and Welland Regiment in 1986.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The tents of a Welland Canal Force camp in Fort Colborne.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A soldier patrols the international rail bridge in Fort Erie.

See WCF on Page 3

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LOCAL NEWS

■ WCF

Guarding against an attack that never came

From Page 2

"There's very little in the archives," he said when contacted at his Fort Erie home.

Smy said the book was the culmination of about two years of work, relying on information compiled in local museums as well as by researching newspaper articles written at the time.

His book is available for purchase at the Lincoln and Welland Regiment Museum in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Many of the pictures included in Smy's book were taken from the museum's collection of dozens of photographs of members of the Welland Canal Force on duty in Niagara.

Neufeld said some of the photos show landmarks and buildings that have changed very little in the past century.

"You know that old shed in Port Dalhousie right beside

the canal there? We have photos of guys formed up in front of it. I find it really cool that the building's still there and it looks identical," he said.

Smy said the total number of soldiers involved in the mission changed throughout the course of the war, but at its peak, he estimates as many as 700 soldiers were involved in the mission.

One of the soldiers was Graham Lyall, who was lived in Welland and later Chippawa before he was recruited at the age of 22 as a non-commissioned officer.

Lyall, the topic of another book written by Smy, eventually left the Welland Canal Force, transferring for active combat duty in Europe.

He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and went on to earn the Victoria Cross —

the highest honour that can be bestowed for gallantry in the face of the enemy.

Smy said Lyall remained in the United Kingdom following the war, and joined the British army.

Twenty years later, Lyall was promoted to colonel and joined the fight against the Nazis in the Second World War.

He died in his sleep of heart failure on Nov. 28, 1941, while serving in Egypt.

Smy has recently been looking into the fate of several Canadian battalions that were broken up soon after they arrived in Europe, their soldiers recruited to replenish the diminished ranks of other battalions on the front lines.

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Twitter: @abenne1



ALLAN BENNE/STAFF PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Welland Canal Force soldiers guarding a canal bridge during the First World War.

Lincoln and Welland Regiment Museum manager Drew Neufeld holds a copy of William Smy's book *Guarding Niagara: The Welland Canal Force 1914-1918*.

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■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

Doing good and having fun

REV. TOM ARTH
First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Last week my family and I participated in GISHWHES, the Greatest International Scavenger Hunt the World Has Ever Seen. It was the fourth year of the scavenger hunt, the first time we participated. It's an annual week-long competitive media scavenger hunt. At the beginning a list of tasks or items is released online of things you have to make or do, then you submit photos or video of what you've done.

A lot of the items are silly or fun, like feed someone a big bowl of warm (not hot) chicken noodle soup but instead of a spoon use a leaf blower. Pressure wash something you really shouldn't pressure wash, in our case a wedding dress. Make and wear a bathing suit made only of candy. Dress like a trashcan in a shopping centre and scare a

passer-by by shouting GISHWHES. Modify a cuckoo clock so that instead of a tiny bird appearing, a tiny Captain Kirk on a horse pops out. "Carry on My Wayward Son" played on a pipe organ in a church by someone wearing a sock monkey hat.

But there were also items dealing with kindness, like doing a chore for a neighbour you've never met. Visiting a retirement home with cards or gifts for some of the residents and spending some time with them. Register to be a bone marrow donor. Have an elderly person teach you an "old-school" skill now considered obsolete. Get a CPR certification. Send a care package to someone serving in the military. Forgive someone against whom you have been holding a grudge.

The whole thing is about creativity, helping participants break out of their shells, reconnecting with one's inner child, attacking bucket lists, and spreading global

kindness. It was a week of fun. We didn't get much housework done because we were all busy creating and doing. None of us had any illusion of actually winning the grand prize, a cruise on a pirate ship on the Adriatic Sea off the coast of Croatia. Instead we were content to be creating memories and having fun and being silly. And along the way we hopefully brightened some other people's days.

Now, I'm a pastor, a "religious" person, and unfortunately many Christian and religious people, not just pastors, have been stereotyped as very serious, stodgy people who are allergic to fun. The Christian life is meant to be one characterized by joy. C.S. Lewis wrote, "Joy is the serious business of heaven." The Bible says "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23).

Well, last week I stood in my living room in

nothing but my shorts and let my family clip as many clothes pins to my exposed skin as they could manage and I could endure. While I was certainly gritting my teeth at times, judging from the laughter coming from the "pinners" there was certainly joy. And I had fun too.

I read one testimonial about half way through the week of the scavenger hunt from a woman who said she noticed a change in herself. She suggested we treat every week like GISHWHES week, going out of our way to help others because we can, not because it's on a list and gets us points. Give blood. Help your neighbor rake some leaves or shovel their walk. Visit an elderly relative or just someone who is alone. Serenade someone. Just do some good, be creative, have some fun, spread some joy. Maybe the housework won't get done for a couple of days but we might just all be happier for it and the world will be a better place.

Shipwrecks – Pioneer

SKIP GILLHAM
for QMI Agency Niagara

One of the last ships built by Port Weller Dry Docks has arrived at the scrap yard in Aliaga, Turkey.

The former Canadian Pioneer was beached on July 22, 2014, and will be broken up. The ship was Hull 67 from the St. Catharines shipyard and was completed for Upper Lakes Shipping in the fall of 1981.

During 33-years of service, the ship survived two fires and a grounding. The first

blaze was caused when a welder's torch ignited the conveyor belt while still at the shipyard on July 16, 1981. The second damaged wiring under the control panel at Nanticoke on Nov. 30, 1987. The grounding occurred on the Detroit River on April 14, 1982.

Since December 1987, the ship has sailed as Pioneer and last visited the Great Lakes in December 2002. The 222.50 metre long self-unloader discharged its final cargo of coal at Lake Charles, LA, in June and sailed directly for the scrapyard under its own power.

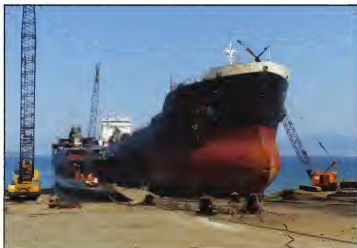


PHOTO CREDIT: BEACHED AT ALIAGA ON JULY 23, 2014 BY SELIM SAN.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **DESIGN:** Graphic created by local business

New logo for chamber of commerce

MARYANNE FIRTH
QM Agency Niagara

Out with the old, in with the new.

It's a move Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce has long been ready to make.

The organization is sailing in a new direction, launching a logo the board of directors feels better reflects the assets of the communities the chamber represents.

"We had the old logo for some time and there was discussion around the board that we needed something newer, more inspiring," chamber president John Maloney said.

The old logo, featuring gold lettering with a decorative border, had been used for about eight years.

"We needed a change," Maloney said.

After nearly a year of discussing the need for an update, the chamber turned to local businesses for help.

Business owners with design experience were given the challenge of creating a logo fit to represent both Port Colborne and Wainfleet.

It was Frank Di Bartolomeo of Newport Signs who was able to pull together the winning design, which features a sailboat and brightly-coloured lettering.

"We think it incorporates the best of the communities of Port Colborne and Wainfleet with the picture of the sailing vessel on the lake," Maloney said.

"It's refreshing."

Plenty of thought went into perfecting the design and choosing the proper fonts, colours and graphics to create a cohesive look.

Di Bartolomeo, owner of the

Killaly St. W. business.

"We wanted to keep it fun, professional, simple and legible. Legible is key for any trademark," said the 41-year sign business veteran.

The colours were also carefully chosen to ensure they don't leave the chamber with the burden of extra costs when it comes to reproduction, he added.

Di Bartolomeo called it "very gratifying" to have his company's design chosen.

Though talks of revamping the logo began more than a year ago, the process was more recently expedited in order to include the updated design on a new sign that will soon be installed in front of the chamber's Main St. W. office.

Port Colborne's Main St. business improvement area board has plans to also install



PORT COLBORNE - WAINFLEET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce recently launched a new logo created by Newport Signs.

a clock and planter with marine-themed fixtures in the chamber's front yard.

The new logo will pair

nicely with the clock, Maloney said.

The Tribune's Biz Buzz column

appears every Wednesday. If you have a business tip, send it to maryanne.firth@surmedia.ca or call 905-684-7251, ext. 1144.



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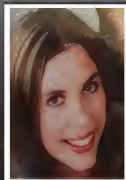
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■ CHICKENS

Looking for healthier alternative to store-bought eggs

From Page 1

Because the Sorge and Butt family live well within the urban boundaries, however, Badwey said council might decide to "entertain looking at the overall bylaw."

"It's just if we look at the overall bylaw rather than just doing one-off every time someone has a similar request," he said. "We'll look at the bylaw again and see if there's an appetite for chickens to be allowed."

However, he said, the concerns of other residents must also be taken into account.

The fight isn't an unusual one.

The issue of allowing chickens in urban areas seems to come up in various municipalities every few years. In Niagara, only Niagara Falls allows chickens to be kept in urban areas.

The last time it came to city council in St. Catharines was in June 2011, when council voted 11-1 to maintain the existing bylaw banning them.

Residents who wanted the bylaw left cited chicken manure being difficult to dispose of and the hens attracting wild animals like coyotes, as reasons to keep them banned.

Matt Harris was the only St. Catharines city councillor who voted Yes to the bylaw being changed to allow the chickens.

"Nobody could give me a reason why not," he said last week.

"Everyone says they're dirty, but what if you have 10 dirty dogs? Give me some

facts why we can't have them. It's like a phobia people have."

In Niagara Falls, the chicken bylaw says people in the urban boundary are allowed to have a maximum of 10 hens, but no roosters. They have to be kept inside a properly ventilated coop in a backyard and there are restrictions on the size of the property the hens are allowed on and where the coop can be located.

To Mandy Bragagnolo, the Niagara Falls rules provide a balance for those on the two sides of the urban chicken farming fence.

"I think it's good," she said. "To have more than (10) would probably be a bit much."

Bragagnolo and her family got four chickens in March 2013, and since then the hens have produced about four eggs per day.

"They're way better," she said, comparing the taste to store-bought eggs. "My chickens are happy. We feed them good food so we know what's in them."

In Port Colborne, Butt and Sorge plan to continue fighting to get the bylaw changed.

"We found out there are tonnes of people in Port Colborne with chickens," Butt said. "It's a weird way to run bylaws — it's OK for someone else, as long as no one complains."

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **COURT:** First employee hired by Bridges Community Health Centre

Woman sentenced in \$225,000 employee fraud

BILL SAWCHUK
QMI Agency Niagara

A Port Colborne woman convicted of a \$225,000 employee fraud from Bridges Community Health Centre will serve an 18-month conditional sentence and make full restitution.

Carole Gillespie was sentenced to nine months of strict home confinement and another nine months of house arrest under curfew, by Justice David Harris

on Tuesday after a joint submission from Crown attorney Tim Hill and defence lawyer Angelo Fazzari.

Gillespie, who was a financial and administrative coordinator, 50 hours of community service.

"I feel the sentence was fair," said Taraless McLean, executive director of Bridges, which serves Port Colborne, Port Erie and Wellfleet, outside court. "Our organization has had a difficult time for

the last 23 months, and we are glad it's over. I hope Carole gets the help she needs.

"When we first found out about it, it was devastating. It was a huge sense of betrayal. She was the first person we ever hired. What she did was incomprehensible. She was trusted, valued and respected. She betrayed all that. Carole has to live with it for the rest of her life.

"Now it is time for us to close the book on this chap-

ter and move forward."

Bridges Community Health Centre is a nonprofit organization that provides health care and illness prevention.

In 2012, the organization discovered a number of questionable purchases, invoices and cheques written from its bank account. A forensic audit discovered a fraud that took place over a four-year period.

"The Information put before me indicates you

didn't take the money because you needed the money," Harris said. "You can't explain why you took the money. That causes me concern, but certainly with your personal shame and everything else, it is highly unlikely that you will ever be in any position to commit anything similar to this again."

Gillespie addressed the court and apologized to the board, staff and clients of

Bridges, as well as her family.

"I cannot feel more remorseful for what I have done," she said. "I cannot change what I have done. I can only make full restitution. I deserve my punishment handed to me."

Russ Wilson, president of Bridges board of directors, said he was satisfied with the sentence and safeguards are in place to make sure it doesn't happen again.



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LOCAL NEWS

■ MILITARY TRAINING

War games coming to Niagara

ROB HOULE

QMI Agency Niagara

Canadian military vehicles will be lumbering into Niagara to ward off foreign invaders.

Beginning Monday, military vehicles and equipment will arrive in advance of more

than 2,000 reservists who will take part in Stalwart Guardian training exercises from Aug. 17-23.

The reservists, which will include members of the local Lincoln and Welland regiment, will be drawn from three brigades of the 4th Canadian Division, 31 Cana-

dian Brigade Group Col. Brock Millman and Major Paul Pickering recently told Niagara Region council.

Pickering, who is co-ordinating the training exercise, said the scenario involves a foreign force that has invaded eastern Canada via the St. Lawrence River and into Quebec City and Montreal and intelligence has discovered a smaller force of invaders is planning to secure the

Welland Canal.

"So now the general has launched his reserve ... to deal with the threat in the Welland area ... there's enemy in the Welland area — in the Niagara region — and we're coming in to clear them out," Pickering said.

While headquarters will be set up at Welland's fairgrounds on Niagara St., other reservists will call other sites in Welland (the South Ni-



DAVID MLOOM/QMI AGENCY

Light armoured vehicles like the LAV III shown above will be making their way to Niagara starting next week in advance of Canadian military training beginning Aug. 16

gara Rowing Club and the former John Deere factory), Smithville (Smithville Christian High School) and Thorold (TSP Canada) home for the week.

"It's not just a good training experience, it's a fun training experience, both for our soldiers and local population," Millman said. "It's not often military operations take place within the boundaries of cities."

He said the training will be invaluable to troops as it offers a realistic setting that can't be achieved on a military base.

Millman said while there will be blank rounds fired

from weapons, there will not be loud explosions or demonstrations.

"There will be blank rounds fired where their use is authorized. There won't be anything like pyrotechnics — no big bangs or explosions or smoke or anything like that as we would normally do (on a military base)," he said.

Millman said residents are encouraged to watch the training manoeuvres and will be advised by public affairs staffers at each site as to the best vantage points.

robert.houle@summedia.ca
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GREG FUMINGER/OMI AGENCY NAGARA

Don Kettle of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 56 begins to bow his head during a remembrance ceremony held at the L.R. Wilson Heritage Research Archive building and hosted by Port Colborne Public Library and Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum last Tuesday to mark the centenary of the start of the First World War. The 51 names of Port Colborne's fallen from 1914 to 1918, as inscribed on cenotaphs in H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park, Humberstone and Centennial Park at Cedar Bay, were read during the brief observance.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **BUSINESS:** Buffalo-based buyer to acquire Fort Erie Race Track

Fort Erie track sale's a winner

SARAH FERGUSON
QMI Agency Niagara

The sale of the Fort Erie Race Track and the entire 338-acre property to a Buffalo-based buyer was to be finalized Monday.

Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium CEO Jim Thibert said in an e-mail "the monies in trust of the sale are confirmed exchanged between seller Nordic Gaming and buyers Mosey, Castle, Paladino and Kompson."

"The buyer is well known to Fort Erie and has become one of the largest commercial developers in town over more than 20 years,

said Thibert.

He said the deal was made Friday, but it was "too late in the day to attend and complete matters at the land and registry office."

Those final details, which were to be finalized Monday, which were to be finalized Monday, which were to be finalized Monday.

Business will run as usual at the track, said Thibert.

"There is no direct or immediate effect on Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium, save we have new landlords. The FELRC maintains its multi-year lease (which consists of leasing 130 acres) and is a critical tenant for the investors."

Plans for the track and the surrounding property will be "forthcoming by the new owners in the near future," said Thibert.

He said DIZ Barricks has been realtor on behalf of Nordic Gaming. David Kompson, a long-time partner with Mosey and Castle, has been the "key man on the ground in Fort Erie and in conducting the due diligence and government and necessary stakeholder relations to bring this project to successful sale," said Thibert.

He said Ellicott Development and Carl Paladino are well known throughout New York state and

bring "much large-scale development experience to the team."

Thibert said the new buyer recognizes Fort Erie is in a strategically important location, being the gateway between western New York and Ontario.

He said the track complements major investments in the area, including planning underway for a multibillion-dollar waterfront development in Buffalo, a major new marina complex in Fort Erie on the Niagara River and a \$400-million automobile speedway with a NASCAR-style oval track and road track.

The province is working closely with the consortium, a community-based, not-for-profit agency that operates the track, on rebuilding and enhancing the business of the 117-year-old historic border oval.

Fort Erie Mayor Doug Martin expressed his excitement about the sale of the race-track through e-mail.

"We are absolutely ecstatic to have the new investors of this scale and experience, especially with people whom we know well and already have such a wonderful working relationship," he said.

Claude Pilato, chair of the Fort Erie Economic Development and Tourism Corp., said he welcomes the investors and developers.

"I know that they have been working with our staff for almost three years in various renditions and we are so pleased to see it get successfully to this point and look forward to the next chapter," he said.

sarah.ferguson@sumedia.ca

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FILE PHOTOS

The Fort Erie Race Track property has been sold to a Buffalo-based buyer, with details expected to be finalized Monday.

IN
BRIEFCooking fire causes
\$100,000 damage

It was an unattended stove that caused a fire to break out in a Buchner Rd. home Thursday night.

Welland Fire and Emergency Services were called to 767 Buchner Rd. at about 10 p.m. to reports of a kitchen fire.

The home's stove had been left unattended while on and the home's occupants did not realize a fire had started until it was already out of control, fire Chief Denys Prevost

said.
"The flames were coming out of the window at the back of the house when we arrived," he said.
The building's occupants

suffered minor injuries.

Prevost estimated the fire caused \$100,000 damage.

"In the last couple of weeks, we've had two and possibly a third

fire due to unattended cooking,"

he said.

"You can't leave anything on the stove alone, not even for a minute."

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CITY OF PORT COLBORNE
NEW PORT COLBORNE OPERATIONS CENTRE
NOTICE OF STUDY COMPLETION



The City of Port Colborne initiated a Class Environmental Assessment to complete a functional preliminary design for a New Operations Centre. The City of Port Colborne maintenance operations are currently carried out at two locations: the Central Operations Facility at 11 King Street and the Parks Division facility at the Port Colborne Arena at 52 West Side Road. The City of Port Colborne examined options to meet current and future maintenance operations demands and to provide a working environment consistent with other City operations.

The study was conducted in compliance with the Municipal Engineers Association "Municipal Class Environmental Assessment," (October 2000, as amended 2007 and 2011). The study was conducted in compliance with Schedule 'C' of the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* (October 2000 as amended 2007 and 2011), which is approved under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*. A key component of the study was consultation with interested stakeholders (public, landowners and regulatory agencies). Three Public Information Centres (PICs) were held to provide interested parties with an opportunity to review and discuss issues related to the project, including existing conditions, an assessment of alternative locations, selection of the preferred alternative location and environmental considerations.

The Environmental Assessment is now complete and an Environmental Study Report ("ESR") has been prepared. The ESR may be viewed at the following locations:

Clerk's Office
City of Port Colborne
66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Port Colborne Public Library
310 King Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 4H1

Hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Wed, Fri & Sat 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The ESR will also be available on the City of Port Colborne website.

For further information, please contact:

Mr. Jim Huppunen, Manager of Engineering Services
City of Port Colborne
66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario, L3K 3C8
Tel: (905) 835-2900 ext. 221
Fax: (905) 835-2939

Under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Environmental Assessment Act, unless otherwise stated in the submission, any personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in a submission will become part of the public record files for this matter and may be released, if requested, to any person.

www.portcolborne.ca

■ COLLISION

Crash victim 'talented musician, performer'

RAY SPITERI
QMI Agency Niagara

Larry Hurst is being remembered as a gentle giant, a soft-spoken man of few, but always funny words.

"He was a simple man who lived a simple life, but such a talented musician and performer who touched the lives of so many people, especially his family at Oh Canada Eh?" said Eric Hitchcock, general manager of Oh Canada Eh? Dinner Show.

Hurst, 60, died after being struck by a vehicle on Lundy's Ln., west of Kalar Rd., Friday night.

Niagara Regional Police said at approximately 9:29 p.m., a man was trying to cross Lundy's Ln., from the north side of the road to the south, while at the same time, a vehicle was travelling east on Lundy's Ln., towards Kalar Rd.

Police said the pedestrian entered into the path of the vehicle and was struck by its front end.

The pedestrian was taken to Greater Niagara General Hospital and died a short time later.

The 22-year-old driver of the vehicle was not injured.

Police did not release the victim's name, but members of Oh Canada Eh? contacted QMI Agency Niagara and confirmed it was Hurst.

The Niagara Falls resident had been with Oh Canada Eh? since its first performance in 1994 and was one of its only remaining original cast members.

Jim Cooper, co-owner of Oh Canada Eh?, hired the long-time singer, actor and musician, who also appeared in Firehall Theatre shows.

"He could play the fiddle, guitar, harmonica and could sing. He was hired instantly," said Cooper, adding Hurst had done more performances than any other cast member at close to 4,000.

"He took very little time off. He was so dependable. You knew he would keep coming through that door every day."

With Oh Canada Eh?, Hurst performed as a Newfie fisherman.

"He was brilliant — a beautiful, wonderful comedic talent. His delivery, he could tell the same joke for 20 years and we still laughed."

As Oh Canada Eh? celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, Cooper said Hurst's death leaves a "tremendous void."

"He's irreplaceable. We have to change and get something new. We can't attempt to do what he did up there. There will still be a fisherman role, but it will have a completely new face to it."

Cooper said outside of Oh Canada Eh?, Hurst was a "quiet, unassuming guy."

"He would come in, do the show and he would leave. He had his own life outside of Oh Canada Eh? He was very close with his brother."

A funeral service was scheduled to be held at Oh Canada Eh? on Lundy's Ln., on Thursday at 11 a.m.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **CELEBRATION:** Family, friends of Falls couple celebrate special occasion

Couple celebrating 70 years of marriage

RAY SPITZER
QMI Agency Niagara

If there's ever a couple who knows the secret to a successful marriage, it's Joseph Alexander Montgomery and Carol Ruby Violet Tomlin.

The Niagara Falls residents celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary Saturday at the Best Western Plus Cairn Croft Hotel on Lundy's Lane.

"To live together for 70 years is a matter of give and take," said Joseph. "You can't have it all your own way. Sometimes

the balance is on your side and sometimes it's on your wife's side. If you don't go to bed happy, it's not going to last."

Joseph and Carol are both 91 years old. There is a two-month difference between them. They have three children and three grandchildren.

"He's pretty good to get along with. It's getting harder as he gets older," Carol said while laughing.

Joseph and Carol are originally from Toronto, where they met in high school. They have been living in Niagara since

June, 1960.

"I was the economic developer for the city of Niagara Falls and also for the Region," said Joseph. "We consider ourselves Niagarans. Our family went through the education system here."

"I had the chance to meet many wonderful people in my job in trying to create more jobs and investment in the city."

"My wife was very busy bringing up the children. She also was helping new Canadians to speak English and volunteering for programs."

During Saturday's celebration, Joseph and Carol mingled with family and friends.

Their daughter, Susan Montgomery, helped to organize the event.

"Dad is the dominant personality. My father is a sociable person. My mother just kept busy with raising three children and once we grew

up, she found other things to keep her occupied and busy," she said.

"There's just not many of their contemporaries left. From their 65th anniversary, the number of people who have died in that five-year period is really quite sad."

"That is why you have to do these things."



RAY SPITZER/QMI AGENCY NIAGARA

Joseph Alexander Montgomery and Carol Ruby Violet Tomlin celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Saturday at the Best Western Plus Cairn Croft Hotel on Lundy's Lane.



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"We have been assisting customers with their grocery needs for over 20 years and love to see familiar faces return to our stores," Bob adds, "In one way, it's nice to catch up with them, and it's comforting to know, customers are loyal to the M&M Meat Shops brand."

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■ **AGRICULTURE:** Port Colborne couple has plans for special events centre

Preserving the family farm

ALLAN BENNER
QMI Agency Niagara

"I think it will just be idyllic," said Laurie Pye as she walked across her Weaver Rd. prop-

erty, picturing it as a location for weddings and other special events.

"This is my family farm. I grew up here. I was 10 years old

when I moved here and I always loved it," said Laurie, who owns Maple Meadows Farm with her husband Brian. "If we don't do something to keep income

coming in, how do we keep repairing? How do we renovate an 1831 barn? We don't want to let things fall down around our ears and we don't want to have to move away because we can't maintain it to the quality that it needs to be maintained."

Although they earn an income by renting most of their property to a neighbouring farmer who grows certified organic crops, Laurie recently became concerned about the cost of maintaining the 30.4-hectare family farm after Brian retired from his career as a horticulture and history teacher at E.L. Crossley Secondary School.

Laurie is semi-retired from her job as a visual-arts teacher for The Royal Conservatory of Music, giving the couple more time to devote to the property. But typical farming wasn't what they had in mind.

"We didn't want to grow hay because it's too heavy for me," said Laurie, who came up with a way to garner another income from the property without breaking her back in the process. "Flowers just were a natural thing," she said.

After Laurie planted the flower beds surrounding her home, she said people kept asking her if they could cut some of the flowers for bouquets. Laurie had a one-word answer to those requests: "No!"

But as she recently walked amongst several large gardens teeming with a variety of colourful blooms, Laurie said: "Now they can cut the flowers."

Brian and Laurie started a new business this summer, selling naturally-grown cut-your-own flowers at the farm. For about \$10, visitors can create their own beautiful bouquet of an assortment of fresh flowers.

Recently, the success of that business inspired the Pyes with an idea for another use for their property.

Laurie said family and friends as well as many of her customers have asked about having wedding receptions or special events on the property, and she and Brian started looking into the potential of creating an event centre.

"We figured this area would be a lovely place to put a tent, because look at the views," she said — gesturing to

the fields of organically-grown alfalfa surrounded by rows of maple trees in the distance.

It also fits in with agritourism, promoted across the province as a way to provide additional income for farmers, Brian added.

Laurie said the location where they're planning to build the event centre tent is far enough away from neighbouring properties that holding special events there won't disturb anyone.

She said a nearby golf course "holds weddings and events all the time, and we never hear them."

"If we had (an event centre) right here, I don't think anyone is going to be disturbed — especially if it's low key."

Brian said creating an event centre will be "a matter of taking out part of the field, putting in new grass and cleaning it all up so it would all look like lawn."

It also required a zoning bylaw amendment — and after substantial debate last month, Port Colborne city councillors approved the zoning change to allow a special event centre to be built.

Brian said he plans to start work on transforming about 2.8 hectares of the farm into an event centre, as soon as he's confident he won't be facing an Ontario Municipal Board appeal. Although Brian said they've heard concerns from a few of their neighbours primarily about traffic, he said he's more than willing to work with them to ensure their concerns are addressed.

"It's going to take a while," Brian said.

"All good things start small and if it really works well, you can expand it," Laurie added. "And you do it logically so it doesn't get crazy."

If all goes as planned, Brian said he hopes to host the first events next summer, when the surrounding fields are filled with rows of organically-grown corn.

More information about Maple Meadows Farm is available at maple-meadowsfarm.ca or at www.facebook.com/maple-meadowsfarm.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **PELHAM CARES:** Fundraiser planned for Sept. 6

Pelham Mudfest getting more muddy

DAN DAKIN
QMI Agency Niagara

Pelham's mudfest event is getting even dirtier.

After a successful inaugural event in May, a second Pelham Mudfest Challenge will be held Sept. 6 at Bissell's Hideaway Resort on Metter Rd. It will be one kilometre longer than the first one and will have more obstacles the participants will have to climb over, squeeze under and wade through.

The mudfest event is organized by the Rotary Club of Fonthill as a fundraiser for Pelham Cares' Home for Good fundraising campaign.

The May event was a trial run, of sorts, and drew about 170 people. That course was five kilometres long and featured 12 obstacles ranging from a massive water slide to mudpits, climbing walls and a swim around a pond.

The Sept. 6 course will be six kilometres and will have new challenges for the participants to face, event chairman Frank Adamson said.

"We do plan to make it harder and muddier, that's for sure, with some new obstacles, but you'll still be able to do them with your team," he said.

Among the new obstacles will be making use of Bissell's one-acre swimming pool. Participants can register as a team or an individual, but Adamson said the course is designed

for groups to work together.

"We have some individuals do it, but it's more fun to do it as a team event," he said. "Unless you're in top-notch physical shape, a lot of people need that help to get over some of the obstacles."

Adamson said the obstacles aren't as difficult as events like the Tough Mudder.

"It's more family-centred. We're not going to electrocute anyone or throw them in ice baths."

Though the course is longer, the age limit for participants has been lowered to 15 years old from 18.

"That was an insurance issue we were able to resolve. We had to turn a lot of people away because of their age," said Adamson, who's hoping the event draws closer to 400 people this time around.

The \$75 registration fee includes a T-shirt, lunch, drinks and live entertainment. Spectators will be asked to make a cash donation to the Pelham Cares capital campaign.

Organizers are also looking for obstacle sponsors to help cover the costs and volunteers for event day.

For more information or to register, visit www.pelhammudfest.ca. Volunteers are asked to phone Pelham Cares at 905-992-5300 or email info@pelhamcares.org.

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INPORT NEWS ■ THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014

■ **ARCHEOLOGY:** Study conducted on east Fonthill development land

Can you dig it?

MARYANNE FIRTH
M1 Agency Niagara

Dig, sift, repeat.

It's the process workers from Golder Associates undertook last week on the east Fonthill development lands, performing a Stage 4 archaeological study on the property.

The work garnered attention from passersby, some so curious they even stopped to question what was being done, said Scott Martin, project archaeologist with the St. Catharines-based firm. The study, commissioned by the Town of Pelham, is a requirement for proposed developments under the planning act.

Golder archaeologists worked onsite to conduct block excavation, working along a grid of square metres to sift through soil to determine whether the land holds any historical significance.

During the excavation, stone tools, including scrapers, a spokeshave and a graver, were found, as well as a variety of chips and flakes.

"It's similar to whittling a spoon, the pieces that come off when making a tool, we look for those chips, the stone chert," Martin said.

While wood, cloth and skin items used in the past decay over time, stone tools remain intact, which is why they are most commonly found, he said.

The findings are made of materials typical for the archaic period, from 9000 to 1000 BC, and are routinely encountered by archaeologists.

No ageable or dateable artifacts have been discovered on the Pelham property, but it is believed the site was used as a short-term campsite, possibly dating back to about 3000 BC, Martin said.

The site, he added, may have been established by an extended family making use of resources, nearby water in particular, and the upland location of the Fonthill Kame.

Members of three First Nations communities worked alongside archaeologists during the Stage 4 investigation.

Martin was confident the study would wrap up smoothly with no delay to the proposed development. He was, however, quick to also add crews "never know what will be found in the next screen."

All findings are brought back to a lab where they are analyzed, catalogued and entered into the final report.

Once the study is complete, it will be submitted to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

Pelham Mayor Dave Augustyn said the findings are "not surprising" as the area is historically known for having been on the route for aboriginal travellers.

There are nearby lands in Fenwick where findings have been "substantial compared to this," he said.

"My understanding is this is minor in nature."

maryanne.firth@sunmedia.ca
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Fortunately, a vaccine is now available to boost your immune system and help to prevent shingles and its complications. It is called Zostavax and is available to adults over 50 years old. The vaccine cannot be used if you are already experiencing symptoms of shingles; it is only used for prevention. The vaccine is given as a single dose by injection just under the skin of the upper arm by a doctor or trained nurse. As all medicines and vaccines can have side effects, some people may experience redness, pain, swelling, or bruising at the site of injection or headache. These are the most common unwanted effects, but they are usually minor. This vaccine was found to reduce the risk of developing shingles by about 50-70% (depending on your age) within the first year after receiving the vaccine.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **WELL-BEING:** Welland artist Meaghan Mulcair encourages children to get messy while striking a pose

Splash of colour added to kids' yoga

GREG FURMINGER
QMI Agency Niagara

As four-year-old Nora Kaufman lathers herself up in paint, squishing bues of blue and green between her tiny fingers, her mom looks on with a big smile.

A blotch of foreign colour has landed atop the little girl's curly, golden locks of hair and her light yellow stretch pants are no longer looking like they just came out of the laundry.

Rachel Kaufman, visiting Welland from Toronto, learned about Meaghan Mulcair's paint yoga sessions for children, which have been running Sundays in the Rose City.

Tipped off about the program by an artist friend, Kaufman says the opportunity for Nora to participate

couldn't be passed up.

"I'd like Nora to get into yoga, and this way is great," mom says from the sidelines.

She rattles off a list of benefits of participating in the exercise — artistic expression, fun, calm, self-expression.

"Incorporating art into yoga is great. I've never seen this before," says Kaufman, Sunday's only participant in Mulcair's program.

"I think this is a great idea, and I'm surprised there's not more people here, especially it being free."

Says Mulcair, "It's therapeutic for moms and children."

Mulcair, one of the local artists associated with the one-month pilot project art gallery TheHardWay, at the corner of Division St. and Helms Ave., initially wanted to offer at the venue the standard fare in

terms of yoga instruction for children.

But told that just wasn't "art," she decided to throw in a splash of colour.

The idea received an instant warm reception.

Mulcair is an abstract artist who works in a variety of mediums, including photography.

For her classes, yoga poses practised by adults have been given a twist — not just with paint and body movement, but in name.

"They're the same poses, but we change them into (names of) animals, the ocean, things that fly," Mulcair says.

The terms are relatable to kids, are easily remembered and they hold their attention.

And that can be difficult

at times when all household rules are thrown out the window and the young participants are encouraged to get messy and coat themselves in paint, either by just soaking it up with their skin or by using brushes.

"We were warned to bring a spare set of clothes," says Kaufman, but who adds, as a teacher, she knows how easily the tempera paints used at the yoga sessions wash off both kids and clothes.

"We'll just wipe her down and go on our way," she says of Nora.

Andrew Millick, Mulcair's fiancé and father to two-year-old Abigail and five-year-old Ben, says his kids love the opportunity to do yoga with paint.

"It's fun, it's messy. It's something you want to do at



GREG FURMINGER/STAFF PHOTO

Four-year-old Nora Kaufman, of Toronto, participates in Meaghan Mulcair's yoga paint session for kids at Welland's TheHardWay art gallery.

home, but can't," he says.

Mulcair, who occasionally teaches paint-free yoga for kids at Niagara day-care centres, will offer two more 30-minute sessions next Sunday at 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m., at the art gallery pilot winds down. But she's open to com-

ing in to classrooms or being an attraction at birthday parties. She can be reached at Meaghan.MulcairYoga@gmail.com.

greg.furminger@sunmedia.ca
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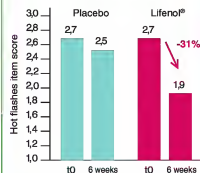
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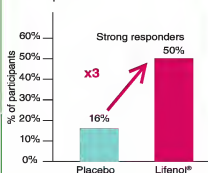
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eden.dsbm.org

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11:00 am-12:00 noon
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less.dsbm.org

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Grade 11: August 27:
9:30-11:30 am
Grade 10: August 27:
12:30-2:30 pm
Grade 9: August 28
11:30 am- 2:30 pm,
BBQ and Registration

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ridgewayh.dsbm.org

Registration Times:
Grade 12: August 26
8:00 am-12:00 noon
Grades 10 & 11: August 27
8:00 am-12:00 noon
Grade 9: August 28
9:00-10:30 am
followed by a welcome
and a family BBQ.

Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

sirwinston.dsbm.org

Registration Times:
9:00-11:30 am &
1:30-3:00 pm
Grade 9: August 27
Lower Cafeteria
Grade 10, 11 & 12:
August 28
Lower Cafeteria
Returning students who
were unable to pre-register,
please bring your registration
package to school on August
28. New students are invited to
call 905-684-6549 the
week of August 25 to make
an appointment to register.

South Lincoln High School

southlincoln.dsbm.org

Registration Times:
9:00-11:30 am
& 12:30-3:00 pm
Grade 12: August 26
Grade 11: August 27
Grade 10: August 28
Grade 9: August 29

Stamford Collegiate Secondary School

stamford.dsbm.org

Registration Times:
Grade 12: August 26
9:00-11:30 am
& 12:30-2:00 pm
Grade 11: August 27
9:00-11:30 am
Grade 10: August 27
12:30-2:00 pm
Grade 9: August 28
9:00-11:30 am
with a BBQ Lunch for Grade
9s and their families to
follow.
Student ambassadors will
be in the building to support
Grade 9s with tours, and to
answer your questions.

St. Catharines Collegiate

collegiate.dsbm.org

Registration Times:
8:30-11:30 am &
12:30 noon-3:00 pm
Grade 9 & 10: August 26
Grade 11: August 27
Grade 12: August 28

Thorold Secondary School

tss.dsbm.org

Registration Times:
9:00-11:30 am
& 1:00-3:00 pm
Grade 9: August 27
11:00 am-1:00 pm
followed by a BBQ
Grade 10, 11 & 12:
August 26 & 28

Welland Centennial Secondary School

centennial.dsbm.org

Registration Times:
8:30 am-12:30 pm
& 1:00-3:00 pm
Grades 10, 11 & 12:
August 26-28
Grade 9 Orientation:
August 28
10:00-11:30 am
School Tours
11:00 am-12:00 noon
BBQ Lunch
All Grade 9 students and their
parents are welcome

Westlane Secondary School

westlane.dsbm.org

Registration Times:
Grades 10, 11 & 12:
August 26 & 28
8:30-11:30 am &
12:30-2:00 pm
Grade 9: August 28
10:00 am-12:00 noon
(BBQ begins at 11:00 am)

YOU+

THIS IS YOUR YEAR.

www.dsbm.org/backtoschool



**WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL
AT THE DSBN!**

YOU+

**THIS IS YOUR YEAR.
2014/15**



Take DSBN With You!

Download the school
year calendar directly
to your phone!
You'll find the files
and directions at:
[www.dsbn.org/
backtoschool](http://www.dsbn.org/backtoschool)

Making the Move: High School at the DSBN

Your first years of high school
are an incredibly exciting time.
It's your first real opportunity to
take control of your education
and make decisions about your
future.

With the DSBN's Make the
Move mobile site, you can
keep all your options close at
hand (literally!). You can use
your smart phone to check
out programs and activities,
download your timetable right
into your calendar and access
a range of supports to help you
become successful in school.

Parents, you can also visit the
site for a list of frequently asked
questions about high school,
a list of supports for your child
and to explore all that our
schools have to offer.

2014/15 DSBN ELEMENTARY DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
1 LABOUR DAY	10 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY	14 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY	22 FIRST DAY OF WINTER BREAK	2 LAST DAY OF WINTER BREAK
2 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	23 THANKSGIVING DAY			5 FIRST DAY OF CLASS AFTER WINTER BREAK
12 EARLY RELEASE DAY				16 EARLY RELEASE DAY
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
13 EARLY RELEASE DAY	16 FIRST DAY OF MARCH BREAK	3 GOOD FRIDAY	15 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY	12 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY
16 FAMILY DAY	20 LAST DAY OF MARCH BREAK	6 EASTER MONDAY	18 VICTORIA DAY	25 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
				26 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY

2014/15 DSBN SECONDARY DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
1 LABOUR DAY	10 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY	14 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY	22 FIRST DAY OF WINTER BREAK	2 LAST DAY OF WINTER BREAK
2 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	19 THANKSGIVING DAY			5 FIRST DAY OF CLASS AFTER WINTER BREAK
12 EARLY RELEASE DAY				18-19 FIRST SEMESTER EXAMS
				30 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
2 SECOND SEMESTER BEGINS	16 FIRST DAY OF MARCH BREAK	3 GOOD FRIDAY	15 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY	18-24 SECOND SEMESTER EXAMS
13 EARLY RELEASE DAY	20 LAST DAY OF MARCH BREAK	6 EASTER MONDAY	18 VICTORIA DAY	24 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
16 FAMILY DAY				25 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY
				26 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY

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